

Remarks

This amendment cancels claims 1, 3-7 and 9-17 without prejudice. This amendment amends claim 8. Thus, claim 8 is pending in the application.

In the outstanding Official Action, the Examiner (1) acknowledged Applicant's election of Invention I, claims 1, 3-17, in Paper No. 13; (2) rejected claims 1, 3, 12-17 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Curtis et al.; (3) rejected claims 1 and 9-11 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Boucher et al.; (3) rejected claim 7 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Curtis et al.; (4) rejected claims 4-6 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Curtis et al. in view of Pierce; and (5) indicated claim 8 is objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response, in order to expedite this matter, Applicant has now cancelled claims 1, 3-7 and 9-17 without prejudice, and have amended claim 8 to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

On account of the foregoing, claim 8 is believed to be condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration is therefore respectfully solicited.

In the event that any fees may be required in this matter,
please charge the same to Deposit Account No. 16-0221.

Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,

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